



Blake Trask, Chair
Max Hepp-Buchanan, Vice Chair
Ann Boyd
Allegra Calder
Jodi Connolly
Matthew Crane
Sean Cryan
Gabe Grijalva
Kelsey Jones-Casey
Neal Komedal
Liz Nixon
Jean White

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: January 4, 2012/6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Chair: Sean Cryan (stepping in for Blake Trask)
Vice Chair: Max Hepp-Buchanan
Recorder: Gabe Grijalva
Location: Seattle City Hall, L280

Minutes Distribution List:

See Attachment A

Members Present:

Ann Boyd; Allegra Calder; Jodi Connolly; Matthew Crane; Sean Cryan; Gabe Grijalva; Max Hepp-Buchanan (Vice Chair); Kelsey Jones-Casey; Neal Komedal; Liz Nixon; Jean White

Members Absent:

Blake Trask (Chair)

Guests:

Doug Cox, Seattle Dept. of Transportation (SDOT); Chad Lynch, SDOT; Dana Trethewy, SDOT; Sara Zora, SDOT; Kevin O'Neill, SDOT; Fred Wilhelm, Sound Transit; Rebecca Roush, Sound Transit; Rhonda Dixon, Sound Transit; Bruce Nourish, Seattle Transit Blog; Michael Snyder, Cascade Bicycle Club Board of Directors; John Mauro, Cascade Bicycle Club; Tom Fucoloro, Seattle Bike Blog; Devor Barton, Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board; Zack Howard, Commute Seattle; Merlin Rainwater; David Wiggins; Cathy Tuttle, Spokespeople; Doug Beeman

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Sean Cryan

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kevin O'Neill, SDOT, introduced himself to the group as the new Planning and Urban Design Manager; Kevin briefly discussed the upcoming Bicycle Master Plan Update that will be advertised soon for consultant selection

PRESENTATIONS

Topic: Sound Transit Northgate Station Design Update

Presenters: Fred Wilhelm, PMP, Project Manager, Sound Transit Design, Engineering and Construction Management (DECM)

Purpose: Provide a briefing on the design status of the Sound Transit North Link Northgate Light Rail Station

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

-City Council
Resolution 25534

Findings/Critical Points:**Sound Transits Rail System Update**

- 16 Miles of light rail currently in service with 13 station stops
- University Link under construction with 2 stations opens in 2016
- Other extensions are: East Link to Overlake; south of Sea-Tac to 200th St, and Northgate to Lynnwood

Northlink Overview

- 4.3 miles light rail extension to University Link with 3 station stops – Brooklyn Station, Roosevelt Station and Northgate Station
- Mostly twin bored tunnels
- Portals out of ground near NE 94th St
- Brooklyn and Roosevelt are underground; Northgate is an elevated station
- Service to begin 2021

Northgate Station Update

- Design is at 30% since November 2010
- The tunnel and portal locations, guideway and elevated stations have been refined
- 60% design is underway
- Northgate station is elevated ranging 25' (north end) to 45' (south end) in height with escalators, elevators and emergency exit stairs, with two entrances - a north entrance connecting to Northgate Mall and south entrance connecting to Northgate Transit Center
- Access from the ground plane to station platforms are by elevators, escalators or exit stairs with ticket vending machines on ground plane
- Bicycle Parking will be provided
- Sound Transit is working with King County Metro (KCM) and City of Seattle (COS) to address rail/bus integration; replacement parking, pedestrian and bicycle connections and TOD coordination/opportunity
- COS and KCM are working on HUD Sustainability planning grant to assist with better pedestrian and bicycle access and connections
- 60% is underway with construction of Northgate Station planned for early 2016

Northgate Station Ped and Bike Connections and Access Plan

- KCM performed feasibility study of elevated pedestrian/bicycle elevated guideway over I-5 connecting to Northgate Station; currently there is no funding for design/construction; bridge is estimated to cost \$16-18 million
- North station entrance will capture access to and from Northgate Mall
- South station entrance will capture access to and from Northgate Transit Center, surrounding area along NE 100th St and NE 103rd St, 1st Ave NE and bicyclists coming over west side of I-5 using NE 92nd St crossing and using 1st Ave NE to access south station entrance
- The pedestrian/bicycle bridge over I-5 would land on non-platform landing, then cyclists would need to use stairs, elevators or escalators to get to platform or ground plane; users of the pedestrian/bicycle bridge would not have direct access to the north end

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- Q: What bike facilities are planned around the Northgate Station?
A: (Answer by Sara Zora/SDOT) Sharrows are planned along NE 103rd St and NE 100th St: bike lanes planned along 1st and 5th Ave NE – according to current BMP. These can be reassessed during the BMP update.
- Q: What is the timing relationship between the BMP update and Northgate Station design schedule?

A: (Answer by Sara Zora/SDOT) Northgate Station design will need to need to work concurrently with BMP update.

- Q: How would cyclists access Northgate Mall coming from trains?

A: Cyclists could ride train and exit to the north entrance and exit platform directly to the Mall from escalators, elevators or exit stairs.

- Q: What bike parking is programmed?

A: 50 bike cages, 10 lockers and 40 racks are programmed for opening year. These will be doubled for future build-out. Bike lockers are “on-demand” type locker based on first come-first served, not using “leased” usage.

- Q: How were ratios of cages to racks chosen?

A: Sound Transit uses a 60/40 ratio.

- Q: How was amount of parking determined?

A: Ridership forecast methods.

- Q: Are runnels planned for stairs and/or escalators?

A: No. These will be further investigated.

- SBAB commented that elevators are not the preferred access to/from the station platform

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB thanks Sound Transit for their presentation and station planning update
- Access to the station from the west side of I-5 would mostly come over NE 92nd St and then north of 1st Ave NE; SBAB prefers a separated bike facility along 1st Ave NE next to the station
- SBAB also recommends that connections continue further north and south along 1st Ave NE, safe from pedestrian crossings and kiss-and-ride operations
- SBAB recommends that bicycle riders NOT be routed through parking lots or through the transit center bus loading/unloading zone area
- SBAB prefers that bicycle riders be able to bike directly to bike racks or access to stairs, elevators and/or escalators without dismounting and walking bicycles to these facilities
- SBAB is ok with proposed bike parking and bike parking locations
- SBAB requests that the emergency exit stairs on the south end be designed for more “public” use; the exit stairs shown will be difficult to use while handling a bike and a ramp design would not be practical as it requires significant amount of space
- Bicyclists coming from the northeast area, along 5th Ave NE, to the station can either use NE 103rd St to 1st Ave NE and use crosswalk with special intersection design considerations to access station, or cyclists may use NE 103rd St, 3rd Ave NE and onto NE 100th St to access station from the south; this should be further investigated depending on what bike facilities are designed along 1st Ave NE at the station during 60% design
- SBAB suggests that bicycling connections to the station that use 5th Ave NE should be evaluated for safety due to the volume of traffic, number of driveways and grades along this stretch of roadway
- SBAB whole-heartedly endorses the planned pedestrian/bicycle bridge over I-5 connecting with Northgate Station and asks what can be done to motivate the funding for design and construction of this project?

Additional Follow-up:

- SBAB will submit a letter to Sound Transit that more clearly articulates the recommendations made at the January 2012 meeting
- SBAB will continue to work with Sound Transit and review next design phase for this project

Topic: 2012 Seattle Online Bicycle Map

Presenters: Chad Lynch and Dana Trethewy, SDOT

Purpose: Provide information of new Online Bicycle Map services

Findings/Critical Points:

- SDOT begins new Online Bicycle Map services; should released in a few weeks
- This service will not replace hardcopy maps but complement product
- It is GIS/Google map based and will be “live” with continuous updating capabilities
- It will show facilities cyclists would use such as bike routes, bike parking/racks, tourist destinations, bike shops, etc.
- Tools that will be available with online service is “address search”, will be connected to “street view”, and distance traveled tool
- At this time no “routing” are available that could show origin to destination routings
- No Mobile Apps are available at this time

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB/public suggested options to apply and be able to use on the Online Bicycle Map are:
 - Printing capabilities
 - Show public restrooms
 - Show low volume streets, speeds, road classifications
 - Bike shops, rentals, repair shops
 - Future Bike Share locations
 - Link to special events
 - Where construction areas are occurring
 - Off-street bike parking locations (from Commute Seattle)
 - Car-share/Zip-Car locations
 - The different types of bike facilities
 - Be able to embed other type mapping services
- SBAB appreciates the work developed by the SDOT team

Topic: SDOT Update

Presenters: Doug Cox and Kevin O’Neill, SDOT

Purpose: Provide an update on 2012 Bicycle Projects and the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) Update

Findings/Critical Points:

- SDOT has recently defined 2012 bike projects and is underway with design/construction with bike lane and sharrow installation projects
 - Bicycle Policy and Planning is underway; more update in February
 - Kevin indicated that the BMP Update Request for Qualifications is out
 - Short-listing and selection of consultants by January 20-26 with interviews proposed the week of February 6th
 - The Scope of Work will be completed in early March and the BMP update process should take about 12-15 months to complete
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Topic: Next Steps for SBAB

Presenters: SBAB members

Purpose: Discuss goals for the next month

Findings/Critical Points:

- SBAB Retreat scheduled for January 25th, 5:30 – 8:00
 - Need to complete the report on the October bikeability tour – will emphasize and highlight need for bikeway on 5th Ave
 - BMP Update – letter of recommendation from SBAB regarding the BMP update and appointment of Gabe Grijalva to be part of selection committee process
 - SDOT updated the Traffic Control Manual of Bicycle thru work areas
 - Liz Nixon will be in New York as part of the 2nd Annual Youth Bike Summit
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MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Max Hepp-Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

January Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Michael McGinn, Mayor, City of Seattle

Rebecca Deehr, Strategic Advisor for Policy and Outreach, Office of the Mayor

City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, Transportation Committee Chair

Peter Hahn, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

Goran Sparrman, Deputy Director, SDOT

Dongho Chang, City Traffic Engineer, SDOT

Kevin O'Neill, Transportation Planner, Strategic Planning Advisor, SDOT

Sam Woods, Manager, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development, SDOT

Doug Cox, Assistant Transportation Planner, SDOT Liaison

Diane Sugimura, Director, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)

Bernie Agor Matsuno, Interim Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)

Allie Gerlach, SDOT Communications

Meeting Presenters: Fred Wilhelm, Rhonda Dixon, and Rebecca Roush, Sound Transit; Chad Lynch and
Dana Trethewy, SDOT

City of Seattle Council Transportation Committee Members

City of Seattle Neighborhood District Coordinators

SBAB Members

Individual Meeting Attendees